



General Assembly

February Session, 2018

Raised Bill No. 186

LCO No. 895



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL COUNSELORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-21j of the 2018 supplement to
2 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Education, in collaboration with the Board
5 of Regents for Higher Education, shall establish a committee to
6 coordinate the education of middle school and high school students
7 about careers in manufacturing. Such committee shall include, but not
8 be limited to, (1) representatives from the Department of Economic
9 and Community Development, the Labor Department, the Connecticut
10 Center for Advanced Technology, the Technical Education and Career
11 System, the advanced manufacturing centers at the regional
12 community-technical colleges, independent institutions of higher
13 education in the state that offer training in the field of manufacturing,
14 the Connecticut Employment and Training Commission,
15 manufacturing companies and employee organizations that represent
16 manufacturing workers, and (2) middle and high school teachers,

17 [and] guidance counselors and school counselors.

18 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 10-21j of the 2018 supplement to the
19 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
20 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

21 (d) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
22 committee established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, shall
23 develop and administer a program to introduce middle school and
24 high school students, their parents or guardians, [and] guidance
25 counselors and school counselors to careers in manufacturing. Such
26 program may include, but is not limited to, hands-on learning
27 opportunities, posters, videos, pamphlets and social media and other
28 technology to describe and promote modern manufacturing and the
29 programs included in the catalog described in subsection (b) of this
30 section. The commissioner may enter into partnerships with one or
31 more private sector entities to further the goals of such program. Such
32 partnerships may include, but are not limited to, student visits to
33 manufacturers and manufacturer visits to schools in order to give
34 students first hand exposure to modern manufacturing and the
35 products and materials created by manufacturers in the state.

36 Sec. 3. Section 10-76t of the general statutes is repealed and the
37 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

38 As used in sections 10-76u to 10-76x, inclusive, "department" means
39 the Department of Education and "mental health professionals"
40 include guidance counselors, school counselors, school social workers,
41 school psychologists, school nurses and child mental health specialists
42 in community mental health centers and child guidance clinics.

43 Sec. 4. Section 10-184 of the general statutes is repealed and the
44 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

45 All parents and those who have the care of children shall bring them
46 up in some lawful and honest employment and instruct them or cause
47 them to be instructed in reading, writing, spelling, English grammar,

48 geography, arithmetic and United States history and in citizenship,
 49 including a study of the town, state and federal governments. Subject
 50 to the provisions of this section and section 10-15c, each parent or other
 51 person having control of a child five years of age and over and under
 52 eighteen years of age shall cause such child to attend a public school
 53 regularly during the hours and terms the public school in the district in
 54 which such child resides is in session, unless such child is a high school
 55 graduate or the parent or person having control of such child is able to
 56 show that the child is elsewhere receiving equivalent instruction in the
 57 studies taught in the public schools. For the school year commencing
 58 July 1, 2011, and each school year thereafter, the parent or person
 59 having control of a child seventeen years of age may consent, as
 60 provided in this section, to such child's withdrawal from school. Such
 61 parent or person shall personally appear at the school district office
 62 and sign a withdrawal form. Such withdrawal form shall include an
 63 attestation from a guidance counselor, school counselor or school
 64 administrator of the school that such school district has provided such
 65 parent or person with information on the educational options available
 66 in the school system and in the community. The parent or person
 67 having control of a child five years of age shall have the option of not
 68 sending the child to school until the child is six years of age and the
 69 parent or person having control of a child six years of age shall have
 70 the option of not sending the child to school until the child is seven
 71 years of age. The parent or person shall exercise such option by
 72 personally appearing at the school district office and signing an option
 73 form. The school district shall provide the parent or person with
 74 information on the educational opportunities available in the school
 75 system.

76 Sec. 5. Subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of section 10-198c of the 2018
 77 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is
 78 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

79 (2) Any attendance review team established under this subsection
 80 may consist of school administrators, guidance counselors, school
 81 counselors, school social workers, teachers and representatives from

82 community-based programs who address issues related to student
83 attendance by providing programs and services to truants, as defined
84 in section 10-198a, and chronically absent children and their parents or
85 guardians. Each attendance review team shall be responsible for
86 reviewing the cases of truants and chronically absent children,
87 discussing school interventions and community referrals for such
88 truants and chronically absent children and making any additional
89 recommendations for such truants and chronically absent children and
90 their parents or guardians. Each attendance review team shall meet at
91 least monthly.

92 Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 10-221o of the general statutes is
93 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
94 *1, 2018*):

95 (b) Not later than October 1, 2013, each local and regional board of
96 education shall adopt a policy, as the board deems appropriate,
97 concerning the issue regarding any school employee being involved in
98 preventing a student from participating in the entire time devoted to
99 physical exercise in the regular school day, pursuant to subsection (a)
100 of this section, as a form of discipline. For purposes of this section,
101 "school employee" means (1) a teacher, substitute teacher, school
102 administrator, school superintendent, guidance counselor, school
103 counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician, school
104 paraprofessional or coach employed by a local or regional board of
105 education or working in a public elementary, middle or high school; or
106 (2) any other individual who, in the performance of his or her duties,
107 has regular contact with students and who provides services to or on
108 behalf of students enrolled in a public elementary, middle or high
109 school, pursuant to a contract with the local or regional board of
110 education.

111 Sec. 7. Section 10-221u of the general statutes is repealed and the
112 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

113 Not later than October 1, 2013, each local and regional board of

114 education shall adopt a policy, as the board deems appropriate,
 115 concerning the issue regarding any school employee being involved in
 116 requiring any student enrolled in grades kindergarten to twelve,
 117 inclusive, to engage in physical activity as a form of discipline during
 118 the regular school day. For purposes of this section, "school employee"
 119 means (1) a teacher, substitute teacher, school administrator, school
 120 superintendent, guidance counselor, school counselor, psychologist,
 121 social worker, nurse, physician, school paraprofessional or coach
 122 employed by a local or regional board of education or working in a
 123 public elementary, middle or high school; or (2) any other individual
 124 who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular contact with
 125 students and who provides services to or on behalf of students
 126 enrolled in a public elementary, middle or high school, pursuant to a
 127 contract with the local or regional board of education.

128 Sec. 8. Subdivision (8) of subsection (a) of section 10-222d of the
 129 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
 130 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

131 (8) "School employee" means (A) a teacher, substitute teacher,
 132 school administrator, school superintendent, guidance counselor,
 133 school counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician, school
 134 paraprofessional or coach employed by a local or regional board of
 135 education or working in a public elementary, middle or high school; or
 136 (B) any other individual who, in the performance of his or her duties,
 137 has regular contact with students and who provides services to or on
 138 behalf of students enrolled in a public elementary, middle or high
 139 school, pursuant to a contract with the local or regional board of
 140 education; and

141 Sec. 9. Section 10a-161 of the general statutes is repealed and the
 142 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

143 The Office of Higher Education shall: (1) Establish state-wide policy
 144 pertaining to student financial assistance; (2) establish procedure by
 145 regulation, for the award of financial assistance under sections 10a-167

146 and 10a-173; (3) review and approve applications for financial
 147 assistance under sections 10a-168 and 10a-173; (4) receive and review
 148 records of all financial assistance granted pursuant to section 10a-167;
 149 (5) increase the availability of the state financial assistance programs to
 150 all segments of the state population, with significant attention to those
 151 with special needs; and (6) assist financial aid officers at institutions of
 152 higher education and secondary school guidance counselors and
 153 school counselors in becoming better informed about matters
 154 concerning student financial assistance affairs.

155 Sec. 10. Subdivision (1) of section 19a-600 of the general statutes is
 156 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
 157 *1, 2018*):

158 (1) "Counselor" means: (A) A psychiatrist, (B) a psychologist
 159 licensed under chapter 383, (C) a clinical social worker licensed under
 160 chapter 383b, (D) a marital and family therapist licensed under chapter
 161 383a, (E) an ordained member of the clergy, (F) a physician assistant
 162 licensed under section 20-12b, (G) a nurse-midwife licensed under
 163 chapter 377, (H) a certified guidance counselor or school counselor, (I)
 164 a registered professional nurse licensed under chapter 378, or (J) a
 165 practical nurse licensed under chapter 378.

166 Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 46a-11b of the 2018 supplement to
 167 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
 168 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

169 (a) Any physician or surgeon licensed under the provisions of
 170 chapter 370, any resident physician or intern in any hospital in this
 171 state, whether or not so licensed, any registered nurse, any person paid
 172 for caring for persons in any facility and any licensed practical nurse,
 173 medical examiner, dental hygienist, dentist, occupational therapist,
 174 optometrist, chiropractor, psychologist, podiatrist, social worker,
 175 school teacher, school principal, school guidance counselor, school
 176 counselor, school paraprofessional, mental health professional,
 177 physician assistant, licensed or certified substance abuse counselor,

178 licensed marital and family therapist, speech and language
 179 pathologist, clergyman, police officer, pharmacist, physical therapist,
 180 licensed professional counselor or sexual assault counselor or domestic
 181 violence counselor, as defined in section 52-146k, who has reasonable
 182 cause to suspect or believe that any person with intellectual disability
 183 or any person who receives services from the Department of Social
 184 Services' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services has been
 185 abused or neglected shall, as soon as practicable but not later than
 186 seventy-two hours after such person has reasonable cause to suspect or
 187 believe that a person with intellectual disability or any person who
 188 receives services from the Department of Social Services' Division of
 189 Autism Spectrum Disorder Services has been abused or neglected,
 190 report such information or cause a report to be made in any reasonable
 191 manner to the commissioner. Such initial report shall be followed up
 192 by a written report not later than five calendar days after the initial
 193 report was made. Any person required to report under this subsection
 194 who fails to make such report shall be fined not more than five
 195 hundred dollars.

196 Sec. 12. Subdivision (13) of section 53a-65 of the general statutes is
 197 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
 198 *1, 2018*):

199 (13) "School employee" means: (A) A teacher, substitute teacher,
 200 school administrator, school superintendent, guidance counselor,
 201 school counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician, school
 202 paraprofessional or coach employed by a local or regional board of
 203 education or a private elementary, middle or high school or working in
 204 a public or private elementary, middle or high school; or (B) any other
 205 person who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular
 206 contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of
 207 students enrolled in (i) a public elementary, middle or high school,
 208 pursuant to a contract with the local or regional board of education, or
 209 (ii) a private elementary, middle or high school, pursuant to a contract
 210 with the supervisory agent of such private school.

211 Sec. 13. Subsection (d) of section 54-209 of the 2018 supplement to
212 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
213 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2018*):

214 (d) In instances where a violation of section 53-21, 53a-70, 53a-70a,
215 53a-70b, 53a-70c, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b, 53a-73a, 53a-82 or 53a-192a
216 has been alleged, the Office of Victim Services or, on review, a victim
217 compensation commissioner, may order compensation be paid if (1)
218 the personal injury has been disclosed to: (A) A physician or surgeon
219 licensed under chapter 370; (B) a resident physician or intern in any
220 hospital in this state, whether or not licensed; (C) a physician assistant
221 licensed under chapter 370; (D) an advanced practice registered nurse,
222 registered nurse or practical nurse licensed under chapter 378; (E) a
223 psychologist licensed under chapter 383; (F) a police officer; (G) a
224 mental health professional; (H) an emergency medical services
225 provider licensed or certified under chapter 368d; (I) an alcohol and
226 drug counselor licensed or certified under chapter 376b; (J) a marital
227 and family therapist licensed under chapter 383a; (K) a domestic
228 violence counselor or a sexual assault counselor, as defined in section
229 52-146k; (L) a professional counselor licensed under chapter 383c; (M)
230 a clinical social worker licensed under chapter 383b; (N) an employee
231 of the Department of Children and Families; or (O) a school principal,
232 a school teacher, [or] a school guidance counselor or a school
233 counselor, and (2) the office or commissioner, as the case may be,
234 reasonably concludes that a violation of any of said sections has
235 occurred.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	10-21j(a)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	10-21j(d)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	10-76t
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	10-184
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	10-198c(b)(2)
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	10-221o(b)
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	10-221u

Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	10-222d(a)(8)
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	10a-161
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	19a-600(1)
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	46a-11b(a)
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	53a-65(13)
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2018</i>	54-209(d)

Statement of Purpose:

To include references to school counselors in the general statutes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]